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fairs of this hospital as far as they relate to its governors, committees, &c. My object is only with the treatment of the insane. In my next communication I hope to make some comparison between this hospital and some others upon the different heads which I have already noticed.

London.

THOS. HANCOCK.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A respectable linen draper of this town, handed to us the annexed report, which he lately found among some old papers. It is to be regretted that no further procedure was had on the business at that time. Now, when from the high price of linens there is a danger of the manufacture being nearly lost to this country, we have every inducement by the abridgement of labour and by improved machinery to seek to bring the article to market on lower terms. The introduction of new and improved machinery in its various branches, has greatly facilitated the progress of the cotton manufacture, while the machinery employed in the linen trade has been nearly stationary. Under these circumstances we strongly recommend to the linen drapers of the North of Ireland, to enter into a subscription to remunerate the proprietor of the discovery, that the invention may be thrown open to the public. By such a procedure we think the linen trade of Ireland would be most materially benefited in the present crisis.

Report on the Petition of Thomas McCabe and William Pearsee. Reported to the Irish House of Commons, 14th February, 1791, by the Right Hon. John O'Neil.

MR. SPEAKER,

Your committee appointed to examine the matter of the petition of Thomas McCabe and William Pearsee, having met according to order, and examined several witnesses relative to the subject-matter of the said petition, directed me to report as follows:

Mr. John Kelsey, an inspector of linens in the county of Antrim, informed your committee, that in December last, Mr. McCabe called on him to look at two webs in a new con-

structed loom; that he examined the cloth, found the fabric good and well executed; that he afterwards saw a man weaving in it through a small opening in a door, and on examining the linen he wove, it appeared to be as good as that he first examined; that he conceives the weaving was more expeditiously performed by this than by a common loom, in as much as there were two webs weaving at the same time, and the operation of each of those was faster than that of one in the common mode; that the selvages of those webs were very well executed, and a good selvage is generally the test of good cloth; that the weaver appeared to him to weave with less labour than in the common mode, as he sat in an erect posture; the quality of the linen he saw wove was about that of a sixteen hundred. Says that he apprehends the use of this machine would be an improvement to the linen manufacture.

Mr. Pearsee, one of the petitioners, and the person whom Mr. Kelsey saw weaving, says, that he is not by profession a weaver; that he wove calico, linen and cheque in this loom; that he believes he worked twenty-three yards of a calico in a day in it; that he understands eight yards of calico is a fair day's work, and two yards and a half of linen; that he is convinced he could on this loom work double the quantity of linen that could be wove in a common loom, and that an experienced weaver could certainly weave much faster than he could.

Your committee then called upon Mr. Thomas Russel, who informed them that he saw the piece of linen which Pearsee wove, and compared it with a pattern piece of Mr. Sinclair's of Belfast, and the selvage of Pearsee's was by much the best; he also said that he had received a letter from Mr. Digges, stating that six of the principal linen-draper of the neighbourhood of Belfast had examined a piece of linen of Pearsee's weaving, and compared it with one of Mr. Sinclair's, and they were of opinion Pearsee's was equal in quality, if not superior, to any they ever had seen.

They then called upon Mr. John Russel, who has been for many years

a very extensive dealer in linen; he said that he saw the linen in this new loom; that the quality of it, particularly the selvage, which he closely examined, appeared to him to be very good; he observed the two webs in the loom at the same time, and is convinced that linen could be wove much faster by it than by a common loom; says that this loom was in a loft, which is too dry a place to work a loom with advantage, and that he is of opinion it bids fair to be of great utility to the linen trade.

Mr. James Ferguson, another very extensive dealer in linens, informed them that he saw this loom, and that it appeared to him to be simple and plain in the construction; the two webs were in it, and beamed on the same beam, and it appeared to him to be an invention of great and general advantage; he observed that he never saw a loom but this in a loft, and till he saw it he thought it was not practicable to work one in such a situation, and that it was certainly wrought there to great disadvantage.

Both these gentlemen were of opinion that the universal use of this loom would work up all the yarn at present spun in this country, a vast quantity of which is now exported, and that their linens would rate much lower, which would enable them to contend with other markets much better than they can at present.

Your committee then called upon the Rev. Dr. Young, a Senior Fellow of Trinity College, and Professor of Natural Philosophy, who said that he has examined the mechanical principles of this loom, and that it is evidently capable of working two webs at the same time; that the operation in weaving each web is more simple than in the common loom, and consequently more than double the quantity of linen can be wrought in the same time, and with less fatigue to the weaver; that the selvage must, from the nature of the machinery, be more exact than that of webs wove in the common loom; that the force with which the web is shot can be adapted to the nature of the thread in the most simple manner; that the new part of the machinery is extremely simple and not subject to go out of

repair, and from the nature of it must cost little; and from inspection it is evident the expense of this loom must be less than the expense of two common looms; and on the whole he is of opinion, that the invention must be of great advantage to the linen manufacture.

The Rev. Mr. Stack who was also present at this examination, declared that he was exactly of the same opinion with Dr. Young as to the construction and utility of this loom:

And your Committee came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that the petitioners have invented a loom applicable to the weaving of cotton and linen, by which two webs can be wove at the same time by one weaver, with more expedition, ease, and perfection, than one web is now wove in the common loom.

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that this loom is simple in its construction, easily kept in order, and will not cost double the price of a common loom.

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that this invention, when made public, must be highly advantageous to the linen and cotton manufactures of this kingdom.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

AN Institution, entitled the Mechanics' Association, has existed for many years back in all the principal manufacturing towns in Scotland.

1. A voluntary subscription of any sum the subscribers may think proper, is funded.

2. A commissioner is appointed to purchase groceries, and sundry other articles for the use of the association, and to sell them at first cost, for which trouble, he is to have a competency, say 5 per cent.

3. The profits arising from the sales at market price to others, non-subscribers, are to be added to the fund for the use of the association.

Perhaps the above institution, deserves to be warmly recommended to mechanics in all the principal manufacturing towns in Ireland. If carried into effect,